

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for grouping columns of data into different levels for subsequent multiple level operations, comprising the steps:

providing sub-columns within a single table column, said table columns and each of the sub-columns having an associated header; and

using multiple dummy tables and displaying ~~them separately on~~ said multiple dummy tables together at the same time and side-by-side at different locations on [[a]] the same display screen to form a single composite table on said display screen, one of the dummy tables including one or more of the associated headers; and

wherein said one of the dummy tables includes the header associated with the table column, a second of the dummy tables includes the headers associated with the sub-columns, and said one and said second of the dummy tables are separately moveable and positionable on the display screen.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 2 1, wherein the columns of data includes a multitude of data cells, and the multitude of dummy tables includes a third dummy table including said multitude of data cells.

4. (Original) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the displaying step includes the step of contiguously displaying the first, second and third dummy tables.

5. (Original) A method according to Claim 3, wherein:

the one of the dummy tables includes only the header associated with the table column: and

the second of the dummy tables includes only the headers associated with the sub-columns.

6. (Original) A method according to Claim 5, wherein the third dummy table includes only said multitude of data cells.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for displaying a table including a plurality of headers and a multitude of data cells, each of the headers identifying contents of a set of the data cells, the system comprising:

means for creating one or more header dummy tables including one or more of said headers, and for creating a data dummy table including one or more of said data cells; and

means for displaying the header and data dummy tables together at the same time and side-by-side at separate locations on [[a]] the same display device screen to form a single composite table on said display screen; and

wherein the header and data dummy tables are separately movable and positionable on the display device.

8. (Original) A system according to Claim 7, wherein:

the plurality of headers includes a first level of headers and a second level of sub-headers;

at least one header of the first level of headers has at least one sub-header of the second level of headers; and

the means for creating header dummy tables includes means for creating a first header dummy table including headers of the first level of headers and for creating a second header dummy table including sub-headers of the second level of headers.

9. (Original) A system according to Claim 8, wherein the means for creating header dummy tables includes means for creating a respective one first header dummy table for each of the headers of the first level that has at least one sub-header.

10. (Original) A system according to Claim 8, wherein:

the first header dummy table includes only headers of the first level of headers; and

the second header dummy table includes only sub-headers of the second level of headers.

11. (Original) A system according to Claim 10, wherein the data dummy table includes only data cells.

12. (Original) A system according to Claim 8, wherein the means for creating header dummy tables includes means for creating, for each of the headers in the first level of headers that has one or more sub-headers in the second level of headers, a respective one second header dummy table to hold all of the sub-headers of said each of the headers of the first level of headers.

13. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for displaying a table including a plurality of headers and a multitude of data cells, each of the headers identifying contents of a set of the data cells, said method steps comprising:

creating one or more header dummy tables including one or more of said headers;

creating a data dummy table including one or more of said data cells; and

displaying the header and data dummy tables together at the same time and side-by-side at separate locations on [[a]] the same display device screen to form a single composite table on said display screen; and

wherein the header and data dummy tables are separately movable and positionable on the display device.

14. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 13, wherein:

the plurality of headers includes a first level of headers and a second level of sub-headers;

at least one header of the first level of headers has at least one sub-header of the second level of headers; and

the step of creating header dummy tables includes the steps of creating a first header dummy table including headers of the first level of headers and creating a second header dummy table including sub-headers of the second level of headers.

15. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 14, wherein the step of creating header dummy tables includes creating a respective one first header dummy table for each of the headers of the first level that has at least one sub-header.

16. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 14, wherein:

the first header dummy table includes only headers of the first level of headers; and

the second header dummy table includes only sub-headers of the second level of headers.

17. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 16, wherein the data dummy table includes only data cells.

18. (Original) A program storage device according to Claim 14, wherein the step of creating header dummy tables includes the step of creating, for each of the headers in the first level of headers that has one or more sub-headers in the second level of headers, a respective one second header dummy table to hold all of the sub-headers of said each of the headers of the first level of headers.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of manipulating the display of a given data table having a plurality of columns, each column having an associated column heading and one or more associated data cells, and at least one of the columns having a plurality of sub-columns, each of said sub-columns having an associated sub-column heading, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing one or more dummy header tables, said dummy header table having all of said headers and none of the data cells of the given table;

establishing a dummy data table, said dummy data table having all of the data cells of the given table and one of the headers;

displaying said one or more dummy header tables and said dummy data tables together at the same time and side-by-side on [[a]] the same display screen to form a single composite table on said display screen, wherein said one or more dummy header tables and said dummy data tables are separately moveable and positionable on said display screen; and

mapping said data cells of the dummy data table to the headers of the one or more dummy header tables to form a modified table.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19, wherein the mapping step includes the step of mapping the data cells of the dummy data tables to the headers of the one or more dummy header tables so that, in the modified table, each data cell is in a column having the header associated with said each data cell in the given table.